

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended)      Material comprising a hydrogen storage component selected from (a) alkali alanate, (b) a mixture of aluminum metal with alkali metal and/or alkali metal hydride, (c) magnesium hydride and (d) mixtures of any of (a)-(c), wherein the hydrogen storage component is encapsulated in a porous matrix selected from the group consisting of carbon aerogels, carbon xerogels, and carbon and meso-structured carbons.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously Presented)      Material according to claim 1, wherein the hydrogen storage component comprises a transition metal, transition metal compound, rare-earth metal and/or rare-earth metal compound.
5. (Currently Amended)      Process for preparing a material comprising a hydrogen storage component selected from (a) alkali alanate, (b) a mixture of aluminum metal with alkali metal and/or alkali metal hydride, (c) magnesium hydride and (d) mixtures of any of (a)-(c), comprising the steps of impregnating a porous matrix material with a solution and/or suspension of said hydrogen storage component in an organic solvent and removing the organic solvent, said porous matrix being selected from the group consisting of carbon aerogels, carbon xerogels, and

carbon and meso-structured carbons.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously Presented) A vehicle comprising a fuel cell system supplied with hydrogen from a material according to claim 1.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method of storing and releasing hydrogen, comprising :

- a) providing a material according to claim 1; and
- b) storing and releasing hydrogen from said material.